

DEVICES AND METHODS FOR IMPLANTING TRANSDUCED CELLS

Abstract Of The Disclosure

5

Vascular grafts are used in gene therapy to implant autologous vascular smooth muscle cells that have been transduced with the gene of interest. The smooth muscle cells are immobilized within the pores and upon the interior surface of the wall of the graft, which is then coated with vascular endothelial cells and implanted into a patients's vascular system. The grafting device can be used in methods of treatment, such as supplying erythropoietin to a patient, and can be removed easily and replenished as necessary. The process is readily controlled and significantly reduces the risk of a viral gene vector spreading beyond a target cell population.

20